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REWARD.—LOST, a POCKET-BOOK, containing £4 or £5 in money—also some papers, of no value to any one but the owner. The above reward will be paid to the person restoring the same to W. GRITTON, 6, St. Andrew's-street, E.C.4.

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£350 TRUST MONEY TO LEND. Apply to A. LENEHAN, Castleknock-street.

£500 AND £200 TO LEND, on city freehold security. C. HATTON and CO., 400, George-st.

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UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.—The ANNUAL

COMMEMORATION will take place on the 8th of April.

H. KENNEDY, Registrar.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.—The MORRISON TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP will be awarded on Commemoration Day.

Candidates are required to communicate their names to the Registrar on or before the 25th of March.

H. KENNEDY, Registrar.

DIAMOND.—Crocket sets, from 25s. McMAHON, next City Bank.

PORTMANTAU'S, in wool, cash, and patent leather,
all sizes. M'MAHON.

EAU-DE-COLOGNE.—Just landed, 3 cases fine
Eau-de-Cologne, in half-pint, pint, and quart wicker
bottles. M'MAHON'S Perfumery Warehouse.

TOOTH BRUSHES.—A fresh supply of the celebrated
one shilling tooth brushes. M'MAHON.

AMES OF CROQUET, at 25s. E. DAVIS'S
Fancy Bazaar, 306, George-street.

AMES OF CROQUET for school room, E. DAVIS'S
Fancy Bazaar, 306, George-street.

JAMES OF CROQUET for indoor. E. DAVIS' Perfumery Warehouse, 396, George-street.
OSNELL'S Perfumery and Brushware at reduced prices. E. DAVIS' wholesale and retail Toy Fair, George-street.
GLASS SHADES, in all sizes, wholesale and retail, at the Civet Cat, 98, King-street.
DUCKING HORSESS, some large sizes, for SALE, cheap, at the Civet Cat, King-street.
LADIES' BAGS, seven cases just opened, cheapest in

Sydney, at the Civet Cat, King-street.

STRONG Nurse GIRL wanted. Mrs. GEORGE MYERS, 72, Alhambra-terrace, Yurong-street.

PROFESSIONAL COOK (Female) open for engagement. G. Mrs. PAWSEY'S, 168, Pitt-street.

RESPECTABLE young LADY, as GOVERNESS, wanted. Mrs. WEEKS, 251, Pitt-street.

N Experienced Housekeeper would be glad of a SITUATION. Mr. CLARK'S, corner Pitt and

WIDOW LADY, of business habits, wishes a situation to manage a business, or as housekeeper. M. J. Herald Office.

WIDOW LADY, residing in a healthy suburb of Sydney, will be glad to receive two or three children, desiring a mother's care, and preparatory education. Any respectable references can be given. Address A. B. Newman, photographic artist, 53, South Head Road.

READ CARTER wanted; good references required. J. GODFREY, baker and grocer, 22, South Head Road.

BOARD and RESIDENCE wanted, in Sydney or its suburbs, the latter preferred, by a young gentleman. Terms, stating terms, J. P. A., HERALD Office.

COTTAGE or HOUSE wanted, six rooms and kitchen, with paddock and garden. Double Bay or Darling preferred. Possession early, or within two months. Cross B. B., HERALD Office.

O A D I N G F O R

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MACHINE HANDS, Wanted, for Singer's sewing machines, for the tailoring business. 139, Pitt-st. Nth.
ORTH SHORE.—Furnished ROOMS, WANTED.
 Address B., Post Office, North Shore.
URSE or HOUSE and PARLOUR M.A.D.—A respectable young Person wishes for a SITUATION above, in a lady's or gentleman's family. Please address C., HERALD Office.
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UPIL-TEACHER wanted, in a first-class ladies' school. G. Y., HERALD Office.

EFFECTUAL NURSE wanted for a few hours daily. Apply This Morning, 47, Macleay-st.

SEWING.—A Lady wishes Sewing on Grover and Baker's machine, or give lessons. C. T., HERALD.

PARENTS.—Wanted, Two respectable BOYS, as Apprentices to the Drapery. FAHEY and CO.

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O GROCER.—Wanted, a first-class young MAN, for Bridport. Apply GROCER, HERALD OFFICE.

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O HARNESS-MAKERS, for light work.—Wanted, first-class HANDS. JAMES VICKERY, 375, George-street.

O SHOEMAKERS and CLOSERS.—Wanted, a

First-class Machine HAND, Finishers for boys and
books; also, several Apprentices. Apply JAMES
KERY, 37, George-street.

E A M S W A N T E D F O R

Wagga Wagga
Adelong
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Lambing Flat
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JOHN FRAZER AND CO.,
York-street.

WANTED, a good General SERVANT. 550,
George-street.

WANTED, a young WOMAN, as General Servant.
Bathurst Hotel, Pitt and Market streets.

WANTED, 40 MEN, to Break and Quarry Stones.
Apply to THOMAS DELANY, Prospect.

WANTED, Left-off CLOTHING (letters attended to)
by Mr. and Mrs. W. BAYNES, 267, Kent-street.

WANTED, a COOK and LAUNDRESS. Apply
between 10 a.m. and 3. Mrs. BINNY, Double Bay.

ANTED, Job Cementing done. Apply Mr. SMITH, corner Castlereagh and Campbell streets.

ANTED, a clean active Youth, as Under WAITER. Mr. BRADFORD'S, Freemasons' Hotel, York-st.

ANTED, a respectable Young Woman as Waitress, at BRANSFORD'S Hotel, George-street.

ANTED, an outdoor Apprentice to the Groceries, a smart Lad. J. MACGREGOR, 320, George-st.

ANTED, a Rough CARPENTER for a day. Apply No. 3, Market-street, at 11 o'clock.

WANTED, a respectable Female as LAUNDRESS.
Apply to Mrs. O'BRIEN, 2 Lyons-terrace.

WANTED, a SALESWOMAN for the Fancy
Counter. Apply 42, William-street.

WANTED, a GIRL, as General SERVANT. Mrs.
BRIANT, Gleebe-street, Gleebe.

WANTED, Good Skirt HANDS; constant work.
264, Crown-street, Surry Hills.

WANTED, Married Couple—man as cook, woman as
laundress; also a cook and laundress. J. C. GLUE.

ANTED, a good second-hand Portable Chest of
DRAWERS. H., No. 11, Junction-street.
ANTED, a Situation, to superintend and repair
sewing machines. Address B. W., HERALD Office.
ANTED, a Female COOK. Apply to Mrs. LONG,
Tasmanian, Mackay-street, West Melbourne.
ANTED, a Female SERVANT for the Western
Districts—new arrival. ASHLIN, Pitt-street.

2000 WANTED, on mortgage of good suburban household security. C. HATTON and CO., 408, George-street.

(From the Index.)

On the 5th of March next there will be three Governments on the continent of America, none of which existed three years ago. On that day the Confederate States will be rather more than three years old; the Empire of Mexico will be about one year old; and the new Federation, of which Mr. Abraham Lincoln has been elected the first President, will be just one day old. We propose to comment on this fact, and to point out the obligation it imposes on the Governments of Europe.

The three new Governments, besides juvenility, have another feature in common. They have all been created or ratified by a popular vote, and so emphatically teach us the oft-repeated lesson, that universal suffrage does not necessarily imply a republican form of government; that it does not guarantee a free government; that it is not the letter of a Constitution, but the spirit of the people, which gives birth to and sustains liberty. Besides analogies, there are differences between these Governments which deserve attention. In Mexico the form of government has been changed. In the Federal States the old name and the old form have been retained, but the character of the government has been completely revolutionized. The Confederate States have taken a new name, but retained the old form and the old principles. The Empire of Mexico was founded in the hope of relieving anarchy and misery by order and prosperity. The object of the Northern Federation is to conquer the South; the mission of the Confederates is to defend their hereditary rights and freedom. Or, to quote the words of Earl Russell, "The North is fighting for empire, and the South for independence." The Empire of Mexico was established by aid of that great military power which assisted the British colonies of North America in compelling the mother country to recognise them as thirteen sovereign States. The Northern Federation has been ratified by the votes of the majority of the Northern people. The Confederacy represents the unanimous will of the Southern people. Mexico, though not involved in war, has a heavy debt, the legacy of a long period of political strife and degeneracy. The North, though the markets of the world have been open to her to exchange her products of gold, is already in the throes of national bankruptcy—her debt is enormous, and her Government issues are not worth 50 per cent. of their nominal value. The debt of the South is not half of that of the North, whilst her currency is vastly more depreciated—but then she has been shut out from commerce, and she has a stock of produce on hand worth more than the amount of her debt twice told. The stability of neither Mexico nor the Northern Federation has been tested by invasion, though we doubt not both could offer a successful resistance. The Confederacy has been tested by four years of invasion on a gigantic scale, and no one who has eyes to see and ears to hear will deny that no young nationality was ever before called upon to endure such a fiery ordeal, or that any nation could have made a more heroic stand, thank God a more successful defence. It was but yesterday the Union, itself not older than some living men, was dissolved. Suppose four years ago, when the election of a sectional president warned the sovereign States of the South that they must leave the Union or become the creatures of a Northern faction, that some part of what has since occurred had been revealed—suppose it had been told that their right of secession would be denied by Europe—that their ports would be blockaded, and that they would be cut off from all the supplies they so much needed—that the North, blinded by covetousness and malignity, would conscript upwards of 2,000,000 men for the purpose of subjugating the South—that the North would recruit her armies from Ireland and Germany—that the North would spend £400,000,000 sterling for the prosecution of the war—that, we ask, would have been the effect of such revelation? It would have prevented secession, but the most sanguine friend of the South, the most fervent believer in the strength of patriotic devotion and in the might of right, could not have supposed, could hardly have dared to pray, that the North would make such small progress as she has done. About ultimate triumph there could have been no doubt, but it would have seemed inevitable that nearly all the great cities of the South must have fallen and have been in the military possession of the invader. How different is the actual result! Except New Orleans none of the greater towns have been captured. In the Confederate Capital, but a day's journey from Washington, the second session of the Second Congress of the Confederate States is now assembled. We will not ask if Mexico could so triumphantly have resisted such an invasion; but we say, and without fear of contradiction, that had the North been thrown upon her own resources as the South has been, with the same odds against her and the like armies invading her—we say that it is altogether without the limits of probability that her resistance would have been so successful. No wonder that the great man at the head of the Confederate Government, and the great captain who lead the Confederate armies, should be calm in the hour of adversity and humble in the hour of victory, feeling that God has been their shield, and that the Lord of Hosts has confounded their enemies.

We have said that on the 5th of March next the Federation of which Mr. Lincoln has been elected the first President will be but one day old, and a little reflection will show that this assertion is true, and not a mere figure of speech. Why is the Confederacy called a new Government? Some of the sovereign States which compose it are as old as the oldest States in the Northern Federation, and the newest States in the South are not so new as some of the States in the North. The State Governments of the South have not undergone so many changes since 1860 as the State Governments of the North. The Confederate Congress contains fewer new legislators than the Federal Congress. So far as constitutionalism is concerned, while there have been many important and radical changes in the North, there have been but few, indeed no fundamental changes in the South. But we shall be told that the South seceded from the North. That is true. So it is also that the North has seceded from the South. What does Southern secession mean? That the South determined upon having a central Government in the election of which the North should have no part. Will not the North, on and after the 4th of March next, have a government in the election of which the South has taken no part? Did the Federal Congress enact that the Southern States should not be allowed to vote in the Presidential election of 1864? Surely this is an act of secession of the North from the South as formal and solemn as the secession of the South from the North. We admit that the North declares

that it intends to attempt to conquer the South. What of that? Suppose the South declared that it intended to attempt the conquest of the North, would that justify us in refusing to acknowledge the new northern Federation? Should we therefore have to recall our Minister from Washington on the 4th of next March?

We presume the theory on which European Governments have hitherto refused to recognise the Confederate States is that Mr. Lincoln was elected by a majority of the States both North and South, but such an argument will have no application for the 4th of March next. The Southern States are not the hereditary dominions of Mr. Lincoln. The Southern States do not belong to Mr. Lincoln by right of conquest, and he is not their elected ruler. There is no subterfuge, there is no sophistry, by which European Governments can pretend that the Government which will be inaugurated in Washington the 4th of March next is either *de jure* or *de facto* the Government of the South. Mr. Lincoln may say that he intends to restore the Union by force of arms—that he is going to reconcile the South by slaying her sons, by maltreating her daughters, and by burning her homes. But this has nothing to do with the question. We have to deal with the present, not the future. If Mr. Lincoln should succeed—if the men of the South should be exterminated, and the lands of the South come into Northern possession—then, indeed, we should have to recognise in Mr. Lincoln the sovereign of the South. But, meantime, though Mr. Lincoln does not rule over the South, there is a Southern Government. The question, then, for Europe to decide is this—whether, on the 4th of March next, she will refuse to recognise the Confederate Government, and so declare that there is no Government in the South—that is, that the South is in the position of uninhabited land, and that she is a lawful prize for those who first get possession.

MR. RUSKIN ON THE EDUCATION OF WOMEN.

(From the London Evening News, December 16.)

ON Wednesday evening Mr. Ruskin delivered a lecture in the large room of the Manchester Town Hall, to a fashionable audience, in aid of a fund for fitting up schoolrooms in a densely-populated part of St. Andrew's parish, Ancoats. Mr. Ruskin said this lecture was a sequel to one he delivered a week ago. In the former one he endeavoured to show that there was only one pure kind of kingship—that which consisted in a stronger moral state, and in a truer thoughtful state than that of others, enabling us therefore to guide or serve others. All literature, and all education were only useful so far as they led to the apprehension and continuance of that kindly power, first over ourselves, and through ourselves over all around us. He was going to ask that evening what portion of the royal authority arising out of education might rightly be possessed by women, how far they were called to a true queenly power over all within their spheres. This could not be determined until it was agreed what the ordinary and common power of women should be. Last week he said the best use of education was to enable us to consult wise men on all points of difficulty. Applying that rule now, he would inquire what the greatest, the wisest, and the purest hearted among the men of all time held as to the true dignity and position of women. Taking Shakespeare first, he had not one entirely heroic figure in all his plays, except the slightly sketched one of Henry the Fifth, exaggerated for the purposes of the stage, and the still slighter Valentine in the "Two Gentlemen of Verona." On the other hand, there was scarcely a play that had not in it a perfect woman. Isabella, Queen Katherine, Perdita, Sylvia, Viola, Hermione, Imogen, Helena, and last and perhaps loveliest, Virginia, were all faultless, all conceived in the highest type of humanity. The catastrophe of every play was brought about always by the folly or fault of a man; the redemption, if there were any, by the wisdom and virtue of a woman. Observe also that among all the principal figures in Shakespeare's plays there was only one weak woman, Ophelia, and it was because she failed Hamlet at the critical moment that all the catastrophe followed. There were wicked women among the principal figures, but they were felt to be exceptions, and were fatal to their influences according to the power of good they had abandoned. As the writer who had given the broadest and truest view of the conditions of ordinary thought in modern society, he would next ask his hearers to receive the witness of Sir Walter Scott. In the whole range of his works only three men approached the heroic type, Claverhouse, Rob Roy, and Dandy Dinmont. Of any deep consistent character, of any purpose wisely conceived, there was no trace in any of Scott's conceptions of men—whereas in his conception of women—Helen Douglas, Flora MacIvor, Catherine Seaton, Diana Vernon, even in Meg Merrilies, and last and loveliest in Jeanie Deans, we had an infallible and inevitable sense of dignity and justice, and an entire self-sacrifice. Going back to the testimony of the great Italians and Greeks, the plan of Dante's great poem, was that it was a love poem of thanks to his dead lady for her watch over his soul. Among the Greeks we found the simple mother's and wife's heart of Andromache; the divine, yet always rejected wisdom of Cassandra, the playful kindness and simple princess life of the happy Nausicaa—the lofty calm of Penelope, with its watch upon the sea; the ever-patient piety of sister and daughter in Antigone; the going to sacrifice of Iphigenia, lamb-like and silent; and finally, the expectation of the resurrection rendered clear to the soul of the Greek by the return of Alectis, who to save her husband had deliberately gone down to the shades of death. He could multiply such instances from Chaucer, and Spenser, and others, but he would content himself with asking his hearers to give its legitimate value to this testimony of the great poets and great men of the world. Lastly, he would take the evidence of facts given by the human heart itself. In all Christian ages notable for purity and progress there had been absolute obedience of the lover to his mistress. What we too often doubted was the fitness of the continuance of that relation throughout the whole of human life. It was thought that the reverence and duty were to be withdrawn when the affection had become wholly and limitlessly our own. Was not that most ignoble? The idea of the guiding function of the woman was reconcilable with that of the obedience, for her guidance was that of the compass, not that of the helm. Hers was the guiding not the determining function. We were most foolish in discussing which sex had the supremacy. The man was eminently the doer, the discoverer, the defender; the woman's intellect was for order, arrangement, and decision. Home was the place of peace and shelter, not only from injury but also from terror. Wherever a true wife came such a home was always around her. Accepting this, then, as the true conception of the office and dignity of woman, the next question was

what kind of education would fit her for it. Her physical training and exercise must be continually directed to perfect her health and beauty. Physical freedom was vain to produce beauty without a corresponding freedom of heart. Wordsworth truly said of a maiden—

"Vital feelings of delight,
Shall rear her form to stately height."

They must be of delight to be vital. We must not think to make a girl lovely without making her happy. The perfect beauty of a woman's countenance could only come out of that majestic peace which arose from a well remembered past of happy times, full of sweet records, and from the joining of those with that more majestic childhood, which was yet full of change and promise, and bright with presage of things to come and to be bestowed. Then, as the girl's mind with all manner of thoughts which tended to confirm its natural instinct of justice, and to unfold its natural instinct of love. All such knowledge should be given her as would enable her to aid the work of God, and it should be given, not as knowledge, but only to enable her to feel and judge. It was of no moment whether she knew many languages or sciences, but of the greatest importance that she should be trained to habits of accurate thought. Chiefly she should be taught to extend the limits of her sympathy with respect to the sufferings which were continually befalling those around her. A girl's education should be, in its course and material of study, the same as a boy's, but quite differently directed. A woman in any rank of life ought to know what her husband was likely to know, but to know it in a different way; for a complete command of it—she for a daily and helpful use of it. Man should know the subjects thoroughly; woman should know them only so far as to enable her to sympathise with and to enhance all the pleasure of them. She should, however, know them accurately, and not have a mere smattering of them, or she would be less, and not help, her husband. Of the two, a girl should be led earlier than a boy into serious subjects, as her mind developed earlier, as they would make her less frivolous, and would be calculated to add the qualities of patience and seriousness to the buoyancy of her thought and to occupy her mind with the loftiest and purest elements of thought. The books for her reading should be chosen; they should not be all those that fell out of the package from a circulating library with the spray of folly. It was not the business of a novel that he would read, but its overwrought excitement. The weakest romance was not so stupefying as the lowest form of religious poisoning; the worst romance was not so corrupting as false history, philosophy, and politics. Good novels, such as modern literature gave examples of, might be made serious use of, being nothing less than treatises on moral anatomy and chemistry, and on the study of human nature in all its elements. But he attached little weight to their teaching, as they were not read with sufficient seriousness. Whatever novel, poetry, or history was read should be chosen not for what was out of it, but what was in it. Scattered over in a powerful book never did any harm to a noble girl; it was the emptiness of a book that oppressed her, and its amiable folly that degraded her. If she had access to a library of old and classical books there need be no choosing for her; she would find what was of use for herself. The difference between a girl and a boy was that they might chisel a boy as they would a rock, or might hammer him as they would bronze, but they could not hammer a girl into anything. She grew as a flower did, and would wither if not treated kindly. In art there should be kept before her the finest models, which were the truest, simplest, and most useful. Her practice in accomplishments should be accurate and thorough. One more help she could not do without; it would do more than all other influences beside. Mr. Ruskin, in his beautiful essay on Joan of Arc, is struck that her early life was passed on a border of a boundless forest, haunted by fairies. It was the solitude and the quiet thought that came out of the loveliness and divinity of nature that made her noble soul raise her to what she became. If they had a garden large enough for their children to play in, with just as much lawn as they could run about upon, and which were wrong in displacing it by a coal shaft, even if they increased their income thereby sixfold. Yet this was what they were doing with England. It was only a little garden, scarcely too large for all the children to run about in; and this they would turn, if they could, into a furnace ground and heaps of cinders. The children suffered from this, for the fairies would not be banished. There were fairies of the furnace as well as of the wood; and the first gifts of the mighty, but the last were coals of juniper. Snowdon was our Parnassus; the Holyhead mountain our island of Ægina. Where was its temple of Minerva? In the report of 1848, published by the Committee of Council on Education, the examiner stated that, in a school under the shadow of the Christian Parnassus, and near a town containing 5000 persons, he examined a large class of girls, the ce of whom declared that they had never heard of Christ, two that they had never heard of God, two thought Christ was still on the earth (not so bad a thought, by the way), and three knew nothing about the crucifixion. The women of England, from the Princess of Wales to the simplest of all, must not think that their children could be brought to the true fold of rest, while such as he had mentioned were scattered on the hill as sheep without a shepherd; or that their daughters could be trained to the truth of their human beauty, while the pleasant places which God made for their schoolrooms and playgrounds were desolate and defiled; or that they could ever be baptised rightly in the inch-deep fonts until they were baptised in those jewell waters which the Great Lawgiver struck forth for ever from the rocks of their native land, waters which Pagans would worship in their purity, but which we only defiled. The last and widest question was What was to be the queenly office of those children with respect to the State? Generally speaking, they had the impression that a man's duties were chiefly public, and a woman's private, but this could not be altogether so. A man had a private work or duty relating to his own house, and a public work or duty relating to the State. So a woman had a private duty relating to her own household, and a public work or duty, which was the expansion of those. The man's work for his own home was maintenance, progress, defence—the woman's order, comfort, and loveliness. The man's duty to the commonwealth consisted in the maintenance and defence of the State; the woman's duty as a member of the commonwealth consisted in ordering, comforting, and attending to the beautiful adornments of the State. Within the human heart there was always set an instinct for all its real duties. It was long since the women of England arrogated universally a title that once belonged to the nobility

only, that of lady, which rightly corresponded only to the title of lord. He did not blame them for this, but only for the narrow motive for it. They might claim the title of lady, provided they claimed also the corresponding office. Lady meant bread giver, or loaf giver, as lord meant maintainer of law; and these had reference, not to law maintained in the house, or bread given to the household, but to law maintained for and bread broken among the multitude. They were ladies if they cared for the bodies of their vassals; they were queens only as they became empresses of their souls. There was not a war in the world, there was not an injustice doing in it, but women were answerable for it; not that they had provoked it, but they had not hindered it. Men by their nature were prone to fight for any cause; it was for the women to choose the cause for them. There was no suffering injustice, or misery on earth but women primarily were guilty of it. Men could bear the sight of it; women should not bear the sight of it. Instead of exercising their power, women shut themselves within their garden gates, and were content to know that they were beyond them, in the wilderness, and suffering; they did not attempt even to console. This was to him the most amazing thing among all the phenomena of humanity. There was another garden besides that in which it was pretty said flowers would grow the better for those who loved them. Did they never hear of a Magdalen who went down into her garden at the dawn, and found one waiting at the gate whom she took for the gardener? Had we not sought him often at the gate of that old garden where the fiery sword was set? He was never there. But at the gate of the other garden He was waiting always, to take our hands, and to go down with us to see the fruits of the valley, to learn whether the vine had flourished, and the pomegranate budded. Among the hills and happy greenwood of this land of ours, should the foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, while the stones of the street cried out against the women—the queens—of England, that there were no other pillows than those stones whereon man, the son of man, could lay his head? (Applause.)

A cordial vote to Mr. Ruskin, on the motion of Mr. Butterworth, seconded by Dr. Wilkinson, concluded the proceedings.

THE AUSTRALIAN FROG.

(From the Saturday Review, December 10.)

THERE is always something comical in the indignation of a very small man. He may really have good cause for it. His toes may have been inadvertently trodden upon, or his hat may really have been knocked into the gutter by the elbow of a short-sighted passer-by. But the just grounds for his wrath are entirely forgotten in the absurdity of his mode of expressing it. The more frantic his attempts to look imposing and to strike terror into his assailant, the more ineffectual is the laughter of the spectators. It is a curious fact in natural history, not sufficiently accounted for by philosophers, that when a little man quarrels with a big man he invariably threatens to kick him. The feat is one which, as unassisted reason at one points out, can only be performed, in the case supposed, with the troublesome and somewhat undignified assistance of a stool. The strength of the instinct manifesting itself in spite of the natural disadvantage is a phenomenon worthy the attention of men of science. If we may judge from the recent example of Australia, it obviously extends itself from individuals to communities. The colony of Victoria, whatever glories its future may offer to the mental vision of enthusiastic diggers, is for the present a very small affair. It is a dangerous settlement to tell a colonist that his particular settlement is not the biggest country in the world. He is painfully conscious that he is obliged to supply the deficiencies of the present by the effort of a vivid imagination, and therefore he splutters with more than a Welshman's wrath if a hint of the unpleasant fact drops from any other lips. But the fact remains nevertheless. Victoria has existed for only five-and-twenty years; and its growth in this time, which has undoubtedly been rapid, has been due to large accretions of that estimable portion of society whose prospects in life and natural tastes render gold-digging an attractive employment. Even now its European population is so scanty that it has been compelled to pass laws to hinder the immigration of Chinamen, lest the colony should become not European, but Chinese; and its political growth and public spirit are in that condition that it prefers to depend for its defence against aggression, not upon its own strength, but upon such aid as the compassion or the facility of the English taxpayer may be content to concede. Thus prepared for the conflict, it calls for its stool, and lifts up its toe to kick Old England.

The policy of continuing transportation to Western Australia is undoubtedly open to serious question. It is no doubt, a more convenient, and perhaps a more inexpensive, mode of disposing of our criminals than any other that is at present practicable. It also enriches the Western Australians, who are content with the arrangement and desire that it should continue. On fiscal grounds, therefore, as well as on the bare ground of justice, the practice appears to be unassailable. But it must not be forgotten that our penal system is formed upon other principles besides those of sound finance, or even of strict justice. A moral aim, some hope of raising the morality of our fellow-men, underlies it all. But for this, the simplest plan would be to lock up for life the class of criminals whose presence at large in England causes us alarm. Such a plan would not be unjust, and might be made as cheap as any other. We are deterred from it by a desire, if possible, to reclaim in some degree the criminals in question. But if it appears that a plan which we have adopted for this end has the effect of spreading the infection of crime elsewhere, our moral aim is clearly frustrated. Transportation, therefore, to or near to rising communities, becomes open to the objection that it is either too little or too much. If we care only for bare justice, it is not worth the while; if our aspirations rise to benevolence, it is a failure. But all this is for our own consideration only. It does not give the slenderest handle to those pert colonists for presuming to question the mode in which we please to deal with portions of our own territory with which they have nothing to do, still less for their recent quarrel attempt to spite us for the course we have taken.

It is impossible not to regard with feelings of some commiseration the exiles who are the subjects of this experiment. It may be that some of them are partially reformed, and have something which may be called a conscience. The position of such a man, if there be one among them, must be embarrassing. He is under an implied contract to commit murder, or at least highway robbery, directly

he sets foot in England. Unless he does so, he is clearly disappointing the expectations of his employers in Victoria. They did not spend their money merely to send back harmless and respectable citizens to the mother country. Their object was to punish the British community by subjecting it to the same kind of suffering which they say they have undergone from the ravages of the bush-rangers who have come over to them from Western Australia. If any of the exiles who are now upon their way to our shores shall neglect to commit a good rousing crime within a reasonable time after his arrival, he will be committing a positive fraud upon the enterprising Australian who paid his passage. If the reformatory discipline to which he has been exposed is not a total failure, and the lectures of the chaplain have not been wholly without effect, he will enjoy no peace of mind until he has garrotted somebody; and if he is at all a man of a high sense of honour, he will feel that so expensive an outlay as that which has been made on his behalf will hardly be repaid until he has damaged at least half a dozen British windpipes. The danger of being possibly hanged in the course of his operations will only stimulate his generous mind to greater exertions. At the same time, he may feel a difficulty in satisfactorily explaining to his old friend the Chaplain, if he should happen to see him, his new profession of garrotting agent to a Crime-exporting Company in Australia; and it is hardly fair to expose his untutored mind to the casual perplexities in which his engagements with his principals will involve him. Even the Australian exporter will occasionally feel embarrassed in his conscience, or whatever passes by that name in his organisation. He cannot blind himself to the claim for additional remuneration which an active criminal will have upon him. He cannot treat the timid and slothful exile who barely fulfils his contract by occasionally picking a pocket, as worthy of the same hire as the indefatigable servant who overdoes the whole of Mayfair with a knuckle-duster. At the same time, he must feel some embarrassment as to the legal consequences of the kind of partnership with crime into which he has entered. Murder Companies cannot, in the present state of the law, be formed on the principle of limited liability. If it is proved that he paid the passage of certain criminals to England, because they were criminals, and therefore likely to punish the English for the ravages of the West Australian bush-rangers, he will probably be held to have paid their passage with the intent and desire that they should commit crimes on their arrival; and if, on their arrival, they do commit some crime punishable capitally, it may be a nice legal question whether their accomplice across the water is not an accessory before the fact, and whether his own passage ought not accordingly to be taken to a place where short sentences have not been introduced.

There were many reasons which might fairly have induced Mr. Curdwell to suspend transportation at this time, independently of the complaints of the Australians. The discovery of fertile land likely to be colonised in the immediate neighbourhood of the penal settlement was of itself sufficient to detract seriously from the deterrent effect of the punishment. But it is unfortunate that the concession should have taken place precisely at the moment when the insolence both of the colonists themselves and of their Prime Minister had passed all former example. It will only serve to confirm an impression which is unfortunately prevalent among all the colonies, that the loss of them would be so terrible a calamity to England that she will submit to any wrong or any insult rather than risk it. The unlucky British taxpayer is in hard case. He maintains a number of poor relations, some partially, some almost entirely. It is not only out of pure benevolence, but also, as is the way with rich men, as part of his state and dignity, in order to proclaim to the world how big a man he is. He has been often pressed to get rid of these poor relations. Clever calculators have repeatedly urged upon him that they are only a dead weight upon his revenues, and that he would gain so far as to declare to him that, if he would but cast them off, he would not only be a richer man, but a much more powerful man, and that the world would have a greater opinion of him than then it has now. He half believes their assurances, but he has always refused to give way. Blood is thicker than water, he says, and he magnanimously announced his determination at all hazards to stand by his poor relations. He has even tried to silence his unwelcome advisers by persuading himself that they are not only no expense but a positive advantage, and that giving them their holdings gratis (which it cost him no small sum to acquire and bring into cultivation), and paying their heavy lawyers' bills incurred in keeping off trespassers, is rather a profitable investment of money than otherwise. Quietly reposing in this magnanimous frame of mind, he is not a little discomposed at being suddenly set upon by his poor relations, all declaring that they know he can't get on without them, that he will be a bankrupt and a beggar, and will end his days in the workhouse, unless they stay with him, and that he must do all kinds of things—pay more money, and give up his rights over more land—if he wishes to retain the privilege of maintaining them. The situation is novel, and we have not quite realised it yet. The British taxpayer is rubbing his eyes and asking himself if these are really the poor relations to whom he thought he had been so generous. But it is evident that his present submissiveness arises more from pure bewilderment than any other feeling. The present relation between the Imperial Government and the colonies cannot last long if it is to be utilised by the colonists in this fashion. The sentiment of extended empire is strong with the English, as with every other energetic people; but it is rapidly becoming an empire of a very Irish kind. The Imperial authority cannot command, and exists only to pay and to obey. The dependencies are not only independent, but they levy war, with the only missiles at their disposal, against the Mother-country, if it declines to concede demands which no foreign country would dare to make. If the Eastern colonies of Australia were foreign countries, our estimates would be considerably lighter, our self-defence in war would be a far less formidable undertaking, and we should be free to transport to Western Australia or not, as we thought fit, without any external interference. It is for the Australian colonists to reflect whether this is a view of the subject which it is wise for them to press too forcibly upon the public mind in England.

EXPERIENCES OF FARTHING LODGE.

(From "Tramontana with an Extra Double Christmas Number of Chambers's Journal.")

It was on the 18th September that we moved into the house, and on the 18th of October (I like to be precise in my dates), having been detained by business at the office till a late hour, the clock of a neighbouring church

was just striking half-past ten as I knocked at the lodge door. Susan was rather long in coming, and I knocked a second time. "You were determined to keep me waiting," I said, as soon as I found myself inside. "Beg pardon, sir," said Susan, "but I thought it was your nasty boys again, or I should have answered the door sooner." "What nasty boys?" "Why, sir, as loud as the clock was striking ten, there came a noise, thinking it was you, sir, come home, tired it, sir, when I opened the door, there was not a soul to be seen! so of course I sets it down at once as a runaway knock; and when you knocked again, just now, I sets it down as another of the same kind, forgetting home." "Very tiresome, certainly," said I before. "Have you ever been annoyed in the same way before?" "Well, sir, I cannot say that I have; but when the boys of a neighbourhood once begins to practise that sort of thing, you never know when they will leave off." On going upstairs I saw at once that my wife looked more nervous and ill at ease than common, and I had not long to wait before hearing the cause of it. "Such a strange thing, William," she said, and she looked exceedingly frightened as she spoke. "I was sitting quietly reading, but beginning to get rather uneasy at your being out so late, when, all at once, about twenty minutes, or it may be half an hour ago, I heard a noise of footsteps in the large empty room over this—the noise of two people walking for about ten minutes, then came the sound of a heavy body falling or being dashed to the floor, and then all was quiet. You need not elevate your eyebrows dear; I tell you I heard the noise as plainly as I now hear myself speak; it was no delusion of the senses; of that I am sure." "But why did you not ring the bell?" "Because I was too frightened to move; I was utterly powerless to stir from my chair." On trying the door of the room of which my wife had spoken, and which was immediately over our drawing-room, I found it to be still locked, exactly, to all appearances, as I had left it a week or two before. I opened the door and went in. Dark, desolate, and empty it was, as I had expected it would be, with no trace that it had ever been entered since I myself had been there last. A gloomy, weird-looking room, seen by that dim light, and under such circumstances; with walls that had been once bright green, but were now mildewed with damp, showing here and there an outline, square or oval, where, in other days, a picture had been suspended against them. There was not a scrap of any kind of furniture in the room, except the long white blinds that shaded the two windows; and everywhere the dust lay thick and undisturbed. Certainly, my wife had been mistaken when she asserted that she heard the footsteps of two people walking about the floor for weeks, otherwise the thick even carpet of dust would have seemed to strike to my marrow when I first opened the door, and I could not resist the shiver that ran through me as I looked around. The atmosphere of the room seemed to me to be impregnated by that faint, indescribable odour of death, which most of us who are grown up have felt in our nostrils at one time or another; and something like a low faint sigh seemed to breathe itself out, and die away as I opened the door. I stood in the doorway only just long enough to satisfy myself that the room was really empty, and then I hastened to shut and re-lock the door; after which I prosecuted my search through all the other empty rooms, but no trace of an intruder was anywhere to be seen. Another month passed quietly away, and my wife's spirits, assisted by the fitness of the weather, began to revive a little; and we were becoming more reconciled to our new home, and the possibility of giving a large Christmas-party, now that we had plenty of house-room, was discussed daily between us. And so the fifteenth of November arrived—a day by us not readily forgotten. I reached home from the office about half-past four on the day in question, and when dinner was over, sat for a couple of hours reading aloud the third volume of a novel in which both Jemima and I were interested; after which my wife sat at the piano for an hour; and then a little conversation carried the evening pleasantly on till ten o'clock, our usual supper-time. About five minutes to ten I went downstairs to superintend personally the putting of a fresh wick into the drawing-room lamp, an operation which Susan could never manage to my satisfaction. The clock had just struck, and Susan was holding a candle to light me over my task, when we were both startled by hearing a loud double-knock at the front door. Susan gave vent to a little shriek, and dropped the candlestick. About a minute elapsed before the matches could be found, and another light obtained; and I had got to the top of the kitchen stairs, on my way to the front door, being desirous to ascertain for myself who it could be that knocked thus imperatively at so late an hour, when Susan came hurrying after me with the candle, the hall lamp not having been lighted that evening. I halted at the top of the stairs, and Susan, holding the candle aloft, peered over my shoulder. A strange sight met our gaze: the front door was being opened, without the agency of visible human hands, and the bolts drawn back, the chain unfastened, and the key turned—for Susan had secured everything for the night—and then the door was opened as if to admit some one from without. A moment's pause, and the door was closed, and fastened as it had been before; then came a noise of footsteps, apparently those of two persons, over the oilcloth of the passage—a noise which was lost next minute on the carpet covering the stairs. The place where I was standing was close to the foot of the stairs, and I fancied—but it might be nothing more than fancy, the light of the candle being so dull and flickering—that accompanying the noise of the footsteps came two faint shadows, so faint and vague as to have no distinct individuality or outline of their own, which went swiftly by me and so vanished in the darkness above. As these shadows passed me, there crept over me the same deadly chill that I had felt on entering the green room a month before; and I knew by the shiver that passed through Susan, that the same icy breath had made itself felt by her. We turned white, terrified faces on one another. "Did you see anything?" I whispered—she gave a start, would have seemed to have spoken aloud, would have seemed to have fainted at that moment. "Nothing whatever, sir." "Not even the shadow of anything?" "No, sir, nothing; but I heard a sound as if somebody came in, and went up along the passage, as if to go up to your room." "I must go upstairs to your room; you had better come also." There was a feeling of awe, of solemnity, over the spirits of both of us. "What a long time you have been out of us," and why have you come back sitting out the lamp?" said my wife. "Who was that

at the front door, Susan?" But before Susan had time to answer, we all three heard in the room overhead—the empty green room—the noise of footsteps, like those of two people walking across the floor; one firm and heavy, as though it were that of a man; and the other lighter, and like a woman's. "The footsteps again, William, just as I heard them before!" exclaimed my wife, as she clung to my arm. As the noise lasted for about ten minutes, with two or three intervals of about a minute each, when everything was still; then, last of all, came the sound of a heavy body falling to the floor, and then silence. We all sat for some minutes, too much awed to speak; what words, indeed, could have expressed half of what we felt! "O William, what a terrible house is this!" exclaimed my wife at last, breaking a silence that was becoming painful. "I never can bear to live here through the winter." "Hush, dear," said I. "None of us have come to harm yet; neither, I hope, shall we. From whatever causes these mysterious noises proceed, it is evident that they are confined chiefly to the empty part of the house, and need not interfere with our comfort in any way." "How you talk, William! as if any one could live comfortably in a haunted house! Who knows what horrible crime may have been committed in that room upstairs?" Despite my wife's opposition, I determined to visit the green room for the second time, not being willing to give too ready credence to the popular idea of the neighbourhood, and hoping to find some more natural solution of the mystery of Farthing Lodge. I found the door locked, as on my previous visit; and the room inside dark and empty, with no traces that had been entered since I myself had been there last. I sounded the walls and the floor, tried the fastenings of the windows, and glanced up the chimney, but without discovering the slightest sign of any human intruder. I may as well confess at once that this was not done without considerable trepidation; but I had nerved myself to the task, and was determined to go through with it. I experienced the same icy curdling of the blood that I had felt on my first visit to the room, and again when the shadows, or whatever they were, passed me at the foot of the stairs. While peering curiously about the room, I discovered the following words written in French, in characters faint and almost illegible with age, on the painted wall:

I am sorry with waiting. Why do you not come, O Edouard of my heart!

All day I sit watching by the window; but when the night comes, and brings

You not, what can I do but weep? Miserable! To prove faithless to me! When you tell me that you love me no longer, I shall at least know how to die. O Edouard, come, come!

I watched all day, and I die all night.—M. Could there be any connection between this passionate utterance of a breaking heart, and the dread secret of the green room? Next day Susan gave notice to quit, and I could not blame her for going. "Them ghosts is more than I can stand," she said. "I should go mad to stay in this house much longer." And my wife was disposed to endorse the same opinion. "To fill up the place of the faint-hearted Susan, I sent into the country for Martha Dobson, a middle-aged woman, now a widow, who, before her marriage, had lived as servant in my father's house for many years. Martha was troubled with no nerves in particular, and heard the narration of our disturbances with composure. She was a firm believer in ghosts, without being afraid of them. "My belief is, that they've no power given them to hurt us," said the grim old woman. "If we let them come and go, and don't interfere with them, they'll do like by us. For my part, if I was in the habit of letting off room, as so many of these Londoners are, I would as soon have ghosts for lodgers as anybody else. If they only paid me in good lawful money—say, sooner, because there is no cleaning or mending after them, and they keep themselves to themselves, which is a blessing, when there's two families in one house." Another month passed uneventfully; but as the fifteenth of December drew near, my wife and I became anxious and uneasy, in spite of all our efforts to the contrary. Would our strange guests come again, and on the night they seemed to have fixed upon as the one for making their periodical visitations? We determined, all three of us, to watch and listen. About five minutes to ten on the night of the fifteenth, my wife and I, with old Martha to bring up the rear, took up our position a few feet from the foot of the staircase, from which the carpets had been purposely removed. The hall-lamp was lighted, and everything clearly visible. I could feel my wife's hand tremble a little as it rested on my arm; she was pale, but of good cheer. Scarcely had the last vibration from the neighbouring church clock died away, when the front door resounded beneath the loud quick blows of the knocker. I suppose it was instinct that caused Martha to start forward, as if with the intention of answering the summons; but next moment she remembered herself, and resumed her previous position. After a brief space of intense silence, we heard the faint creaking of a door in the upper part of the house, followed by the pit-pat of light footsteps rapidly descending the stairs, mingled with which, as the footsteps came nearer, we distinctly heard the faint rustle of a silk dress. The footsteps passed close before us, and went along the passage to the front door; and next moment we saw the bolts drawn back, the key turned, the chain unfastened, and the door flung wide open—all by the agency of invisible fingers. The shadow, the phantom—call it what you will—that had knocked, having, I presume, entered the house, the door was shut and re-fastened, and the noise of footsteps, like those of two people, sounded along the passage, re-passed us, and went up the stairs—up the first flight, and then up the second, on their way to the green room. Again, as on the previous occasion, I thought I could distinguish the vague outline of two shadows—fainter, and less clearly defined than the little cloud made by one's breath on a winter-day; but both my wife and Martha declared, when questioned, that they had seen nothing. At the moment these shadows were passing me, some strange instinct induced me to put out my arm, as if to bar their passage up the stairs; but the instant that I did so, my wrist was grasped tightly by a hand as cold as that of a corpse, and my arm pushed gently but resistlessly on one side—it was a hand with rings on it, small and delicate as that of a woman, but which left for several days the faint blue outline of a finger and thumb at the spot where it had seized my wrist. "How terribly cold I am, William!" said my wife with a shudder; "my heart feels as though it were about to stop beating." We went up to the drawing-room, and there sat in silent awe, while the weird footsteps in the room above passed to and fro, and the ghostly drama was re-enacted, which in the flesh, and long years before, had doubtless been acted in reality. It was now clearly evident that the fifteenth of each month

was the only day on which our strange visitors troubled Farthing Lodge with their presence, and then only for a quarter of an hour at a time; and bearing this fact in mind, I began to see my way to live as quiet, commonplace, and humdrum a life, even in this haunted house, as any sober city man need desire. * * * A mystery it was, and a mystery it was likely to remain. We had very few visitors at Farthing Lodge. It was so out of the way of our old Hornsey acquaintances, that they rarely found it convenient to call upon us; and, with two exceptions, we made no new friends after our removal. Those exceptions consisted of old Herr Bernhard, and his daughter the Fraulein Anna. How we made their acquaintance it matters not to say here; but to know them was to like them, and they soon became regular and frequent visitors at Farthing Lodge. Their position in life was not a very elevated one, the Herr being neither more nor less than instrument-tuner at a large piano-manufactory, while his daughter taught French and German as a daily governess. A fair-haired gentle young woman, pensive and dreamy, was the Fraulein Anna; given to long brooding fits of silence, during which she would seem lost to all outward objects, although I have at times seen her as cheerful and sunny-hearted as any young girl to whom the world is still fresh and beautiful. But Anna was no longer a girl, being, I imagine, about eight-and-twenty years old when I knew her first. A brilliant fire had at one time seemed to open itself before her, for when young she had an exquisite voice, combined with great natural genius for music, and was being trained for the lyric stage, on which she hoped some day to shine as a great artist, when she fell ill of a terrible fever, and lost her voice for ever. She rarely alluded to this period of her life when I knew her, but fulfilled the dull duties of her position with cheerfulness and serenity, as though her ambition had never soared beyond inducing the youthful daughters of worthy citizens into the intricacies of German irregular verbs. Both Anna and her father had been established in England for many years, and could speak the language exceedingly well. Herr Bernhard took snuff in enormous quantities, and played on the violin with rare taste and feeling. After we had had our hand at piquet, and smoked a couple of cigars in my little den, he would bring his darling out of its case, and charm our souls with sweet melodies, grave, gay, or pathetic, as the humour took him; and as my wife could touch the piano reasonably well, and I could toote a mild accompaniment on the flute, the long winter evenings never seemed to pass so swiftly as when we were so pleasantly employed. It was to Herr Bernhard, of all people in the world, that I one evening in my little room. He spoke no word till I had done my story, and even then he went on puffing for a minute or two in silence. On the fifteenth of next month," said the Herr at last, "Anna and I will spend the evening with you, my friend, and see and hear for ourselves what will then take place." * * * On the evening of the fifteenth, Anna and her father dropped in at their usual hour for visiting us, the former being quite unaware of the conversation that had taken place between Herr and myself a fortnight previously. My wife had gone to spend a few days with some relatives, not feeling equal to the task of passing the dreaded night at home. * * * At length the clock struck ten, and the next minute the ghostly summons resounded through the house. I had instructed Martha beforehand to take no notice when she should hear it; and Anna, thinking it had been unheard by every one but herself, said quietly, after a brief pause: "Mr. Appleford, there is some one at the door. Martha seems to have gone to bed, shall I see who it is?" "Do, my child," said her father. "That move, Herr Wilhelm, is your last: checkmate!" Anna had arisen and opened the parlour door, and stood on the threshold like one spell-bound and incapable of further movement. The Herr and I crept up stealthily behind, and looked over her shoulder just as the fastenings of the door were being undone by some unseen power, as I have already described. "What is it, my child, that thou seest?" said Herr Bernhard, "speak, and fear not." "I see the phantom of a woman, young and beautiful," said Anna in a low voice, as if in obedience to a summons she could not disobey. "She is dressed in green, and has a gold chain round her neck. She is very pale and weary-looking, as if with much weeping, and over her shoulders her long bright hair falls unconfined. She has just descended the stairs, and see! now she opens the front door to let in him who knocked. He comes in—a tall dark stranger, enveloped in a long cloak, which he throws back as he enters. His hair is powdered; he wears a velvet coat, and carries a rapier by his side. He stoops and kisses the beautiful lady who has let him in; and as she looks up in his face, she says to him in French: 'O Edouard, what a long, long time you have been away! How sick the heart grows, watching and waiting for one we love! But you will not leave me again, will you, dear?' He kisses her again, but says nothing; and now they go upstairs together—the phantoms of two people who have been in their graves for twenty years." "Follow them, Anna, my child," said Herr Bernhard, "and declare to us that which you have seen and heard." With a sigh of intense weariness, as though the task were repugnant to her feelings, Anna began to ascend the stairs in obedience to her father's wishes, and we two followed in silence. She led the way without hesitation to the green room, unfastened the door, and went in. Hardly knowing what I was about, I had brought a candle up with me, which I now held aloft as I stood in the doorway, from whence it threw a dull uncertain light across the empty, desolate room; but Anna saw everything that occurred by another light than ours. She stood like a being rap-inspired—her features looking almost as white, set, and rigid as those of a corpse; her eyes wide open, staring and burning with an intense inner light, that seemed to be drawn from no common earthly source. "Tell me, my darling, what is it thou seest?" said the father. "I see a room furnished in a rich and antique fashion," said Anna, in a low, monotonous voice. "There are two people in it—the two whom I followed upstairs. Hush! they are speaking: 'How pale and dreary you look, my Edouard. You bring me bad news. I read it in your eyes.' 'Bad news, indeed, Marie! My father is inexorable; he has made arrangements for my marriage with the lady of whom I spoke to you before—she who is so rich. I am ruined, and dare not disobey. Marie, we must part.' 'Part, my Edouard! who has lived only for each other; we to whom life for the last two years has been one bright dream of love! Ah, that cannot be true!' 'It is only too true, Marie! I cannot disobey my father—may, he has extorted from me a promise to wed her whom he has chosen for me!' 'And what did you promise me, Edouard, that wild night when I fled away from

my father's cottage, when you persuaded me to quit my own beautiful France, and accompany you in a fisherman's boat across that terrible sea to this sad island, where I have lived only in the light of your love? What was it that you promised me on that fatal night? Did you not swear to me, by the memory of your dead mother, that you would make me, and me alone, your wife?' 'I did—I did. Heaven help me! But these regrets are useless. The past is beyond recall. Listen, Marie! I may as well tell you the worst at once. I am married already! They have been walking to and fro in the room, she clinging to his arm, as though beyond him the world held nothing. Now she stops and looks up into his face with wild despairing eyes, before which his own tremble and fall. 'You are—married—and not to me?' she says. 'It is too horrible for belief! Tell me again, Edouard: I cannot have heard aright.' 'Alas, Marie, it is but too true. I am married to a woman whom I detest. My absences have aroused her suspicions, and I dare not see you more. I pierce me to the heart to tell you this, but I am powerless to avert the blow. Have no fears for the future; my marriage has made me rich, and—' 'He takes his love from me, and thinks that gold will compensate! O my life—my love, my husband! I lost me once more; yet once again, let these arms clasp your neck, this head lie on your bosom! Ah, die so! And is the end really come? Never more to see you, my heart's darling? A moment, so, I am brave now. I have pressed back all tears to my heart. Yes, I am brave, but weak. There is wine in that flask, my Edouard. My lips are fevered; give me of it to drink. Thanks. See how it sparkles! Beautiful wine! I shall soon be better now. One last kiss—and now I drink. To you, Edouard, long life and happiness; to me—this! All gone, to the last drop. This, Edouard, is the revenge of a broken heart!' He takes the glass from her hand, and as he turns to replace it on the table, Marie staggers, and falls heavily to the floor. He rushes to her help. 'What is this Marie?' he exclaims, as he raises her in his arms. 'It is death, darling; all that is now left for your poor Marie. Your hand dealt the blow, and from your hand I took the cup; but forgive, I forgive. Remember! * * * O father, I can no more!' cried poor Anna. 'It is too terrible!' She fell back into her father's arms, cold, and almost insensible; a film gathered over her eyes, and her lips still worked, but no sound came from them. We carried her down stairs; and after a time, the attentions of her father and old Martha brought her round sufficiently to allow of her being escorted home; but for some days afterwards she remained in a very low, nervous, and depressed condition.

LAW REPORTING.

EVERY profession has its myths—beautiful and venerable fictions, which enable it to attain useful practical results without being ostentatiously illogical. The English legal mind especially has been prolific of these spiritual creations, of which the most magnificent is the common law. Those two words have been to the English lawyer just what "the voice of the universal Church" is to the theologian. Whenever two men quarrel over a complication of affairs which has never happened before, and for which there is therefore no law—a thing which happens much more often than people generally suppose—the Judges make a law for it, and loudly assert that they are doing nothing of the kind. They are simply declaring the common law, which is the perfection of human reason, and contains a rule applicable to every state of circumstances which ever did or ever will exist among mankind. Persons of a reverent turn of mind would be, and for many centuries people were, content to leave this subtle abstraction to be gradually revealed. Every fresh decision dispelled something of the cloud which veiled her awful form, and if sometimes the Judges were dis-satisfied and could not accurately discern her features through a mist—if, in plain words, they declared what was not law, or as scoffers would have it, made bad law, time was sure to remedy the error. This, however, is an age which respects nothing, and there are people whose impatient curiosity demands that all the clouds round the common law should be forthwith puffed away and every atom of her nakedness revealed. They clamour for a code, and it is probable that if they had been ancient Romans they would have clamoured for the publication of the Sibylline books. While, however, the religious mind shudders at the calumnious profanity of the thorough-going codifiers, it willingly admits that the principle of reverence may be carried too far. There are limbs and features of the common law which ought to be revealed and accurately set forth, as, for instance, the criminal law and the rules of legal procedure. But, above all, it seems reasonable that when the Judges have declared a bit of the ineffable "perfection of human reason" it should be written down at once and preserved. Reverence may degenerate into carelessness. Fortunately, there is many worshippers, and they have found their account in sedulously noting down every feature of her countenance, as though the revelation of the common law would have been like a panorama, which vanishes from your gaze almost as soon as you have seen it. Probably the cause of this uselessness on the part of the Government is to be found, like so many other of our shortcomings, in our excessive love of being practical. Law courts are places for the transaction of business, and when justice has been done between A and B the business is over. The notion of at the same time developing a system of jurisprudence is an idea of lawyers—a theory, and so it happens that while formal proceedings in a cause and the decision or decree of the Court have from time immemorial been recorded and preserved with scrupulous care, the judgment, or to speak accurately the reasons for the judgment, have never been authoritatively recorded at all. In this we are behind the best part of Europe. In France, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Italy, the judges are required to reduce their judgment to writing and to state the reasons for their decision, and the whole document forms a portion of the record and is accessible to the public. We cannot doubt that at all events thus far the law reporting is properly a function of the Government.

Every system, however, has its advantages, and we do not desire to see the judges of our Courts bound to write their judgments and the judgments a part of the formal record. Such a composition would inevitably take a technical shape. A French judgment is like an English conveyance. It begins with a tedious string of recitals, and is about the most uninviting document which human pedantry ever composed. An English judgment on an important point of law is a finished

essay, always logical and luminous, and very often a model of good English. The beauty of Lord Stowell's decisions is proverbial, the judgment of Lord Mansfield on the reversal of Wilkes's outlawry is one of the finest compositions in the English language. Again, to compel the judges to write their judgments would at least in the Courts of common law cause very great delay. The system of pleading which eliminates the questions of fact for the decision of a jury, and puts the questions of law to the Court nakedly, makes their work often very easy, and the point in dispute is argued and disposed of in a few minutes. Even in Equity Vice-Chancellor Wood—not the least eminent of the Chancery lawyers—pronounces his decisions *ore tenus*, and is understood to justify himself on the ground that writing is injurious to his health, and that suits would lose more by the delay which the writing would cause than the public could gain by the increased clearness of the composition. All that is wanted is that every Court should have an authorised reporter, and that, when the judgment is oral, the judge should be bound to do as Vice-Chancellor Wood does—revise the proof sheets of his judgments before they are printed.

This requisition, however, obviously implies that the records of the Courts should be printed and published, and this has almost always, abroad as well as at home, been left to private enterprise. Abroad probably this has scarcely done all it might do; at home it has done too much. Without going into the antiquities of the subject, we may say that the modern practice of law reporting has arisen in this way:—The judges of the various Courts have encouraged, or perhaps nominated, some able barrister to report the proceedings of their Courts, and have been in the habit of sending him the draft of any judgment which was reduced to writing. From the publication of the reports he derived a handsome addition to his income, but not enough to induce him to give up practice. As his practice grew, his reports fell into arrears. Of course they were costly, for even then an able man was barely compensated for his loss of time. Then private enterprise came again into the field. A body of competent men without much practice set up a report of all the proceedings of all the Courts at a very moderate price, and forestalled the "authorised" reporters. The speculation paid, and has been imitated. The "authorised reports" diminished in value. They are said to have fallen into the hands of the same class as their competitors—men without practice. They revenge themselves for the loss of customers by increasing the bulk of their reports. Hence prolixity. Under the influence of competition, the number of reports has risen to six or seven. Each is afraid to leave out a case lest his rivals should publish it. Hence the report of judgments which decide trivial points or merely confirm former decisions. Hence, again, delay and expense, and again prolixity in a never-ending series. At last, the patience of the profession has broken down, and after a year of inquiring, and reporting, and debating, it has determined on a scheme in a general meeting held last Monday, of which our readers have probably seen the report in the daily papers.

The scheme is not at first sight very promising. It is simply to start a sixth—or, as the case may be, seventh—set of reports. They propose to get rid of prolixity by giving the reporters a fixed salary, to get rid of costliness by publishing the whole set at a fixed moderate annual price, and to get rid of delay by making it a fundamental requirement that the reporters' duties be "faithfully and punctually" discharged. There are to be two editors to revise the reports, and a Council elected by the Inns of Court, the Law Institution as representing the solicitors, and the Lord Chancellor if he will favour the project, to superintend and direct the whole publication.

In a business point of view it is not for us to estimate what are the chances of the success of this scheme. But it seems clear that if it is to answer its most obvious purpose of three inter-related objects, the Government, the judges, and the barristers who publish the so-called "authorised reports." The latter class are offered the removal of the reporterships. But as the matter stands the Council can offer them no security for the payment of their salaries, they would probably lose money by the change, and above all, they would lose their independence. Nevertheless, they will probably be manageable if the judges and the Government can be gained. The former will probably favour the project. The revision of the proofs of their spoken judgments will not be a very onerous addition to their labours, and every judge must take a certain interest in the progress of our jurisprudence. The difficulty will probably be with the Government, and especially with the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The evils complained of after all chiefly affect the public interest is altogether remote. No doubt the public do in the long run pay for the obscurity of the law, but they do not see it, and it would be hard to get the House of Commons to give any support to what is after all a private speculation. On the other hand, there is a very important public object to which this scheme might be made subservient, and that is the consolidation of the law. Most practical reformers begin to see that, for the present, codification is not possible, even if it were desirable. Consolidation, on the other hand, is possible, and is besides a good step towards codification. Moreover, you can consolidate not only the statute but even the common law, so far at least as judicial decisions have given it a visible form. This is the truth which Sir James Wilde impressed on the last meeting of the Social Science Association. But to consolidate the old decisions without making some provision to prevent the excessive accumulation of the new is only a half-hearted reform. Perhaps the most logical scheme would be for the Government to take the whole affair into its own hands, provide every Court with a salaried reporter, and publish the reports at the public risk. This, however, is hardly suited to our notions. But if the Government would guarantee the salaries of the reporters for a few years, it might effect an important public object without any real risk. This would certainly facilitate the "authorised reports." Authorised reports, corrected by the Judges, as cheap and as expeditious as the *Law Journal* or *Jurist*, would certainly sell. And if the Crown were to demand an authoritative voice in the appointment of the Council, a body might be formed to which it would be safe to entrust the duty of excluding from the reports decisions which are not needed as precedents. With such a publication nothing could, we are convinced, permanently compete, and a very important public object would thus be attained, if not very systematically, very effectually. Without Government support the new law reports are not unlikely to do nothing but increase the confusion they are intended to remedy.—Spectator.

THE CAUSES OF THE COLONIAL PREFERENCE FOR PROTECTION.

(From the Economist, December 17.)

It is, perhaps, a misfortune for the world that the idea of free trade should have been first accepted by Great Britain. There is something or other in the English mind—a want, perhaps, of sympathy with the special difficulties of other nations—which prohibits its favourite ideas from spreading. Had France been first convinced of the truth of the free trade dogma, it would by this time have penetrated throughout Europe, perhaps throughout the world, whereas, to judge from all appearances, the creed is not only stationary, but retrograding. A partial aversion towards a sound policy has been made in France under the influence of the Emperor, but in America, the Canada, Australia, and the Anglo-Saxon colonies generally, the belief in protection seems to have acquired a new and stronger vitality. The Northern Americans have raised their tariff to figures which but for the vast expenditure would almost extinguish trade, the Canadians try to meet every fresh expense by raising some new tax on imports, and a Parliament has just been elected in Victoria pledged to introduce a system of general protection for colonial industry. Nothing is to be imported which can possibly be made, and manufacturers are to be encouraged by raising some of the duties on imports, and a Parliament has just been elected in Victoria pledged to introduce a system of general protection for colonial industry. Nothing is to be imported which can possibly be made, and manufacturers are to be encouraged by raising some of the duties on imports, and a Parliament has just been elected in Victoria pledged to introduce a system of general protection for colonial industry. 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THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1865.

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